

IV

RESIDENTIAL BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

RESIDENTIAL BMP ACTIVITY SHEETS

This chapter consists of a series of information sheets listing the best management practices (BMPs) that are either recommended or required for single family residential activities in unincorporated King County. The activity sheets in this chapter target typical household activities that have the potential to pollute stormwater, surface waters, and groundwater.

Stormwater pollution occurs when water runs over the ground, picks up pollutants, and washes the pollutants into surface and ground waters. Street storm drainage systems are designed to prevent local flooding by carrying stormwater runoff to nearby streams and rivers. These drainage systems do not remove pollutants such as motor oil or soap.

Even small amounts of commonly used household products such as motor oil, pesticides, paint waste, and soaps are harmful to aquatic life. Although individual activities may appear insignificant, runoff from urban areas is now a leading cause of water pollution in rivers, lakes, and coastal areas.

King County's goal is to reduce pollution by educating homeowners and residents to prevent the contamination of stormwater runoff and our streams, rivers, lakes, and groundwater.